



Mary Canavan/R5/USEPA/US

03/20/2007 02:49 PM

To "Sackley, Ed" <Ed.Sackley@mail.house.gov>

cc bucholz paul@michigan.gov, LAWRENCE
SCHMITT/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, Shari
Kolak/R5/USEPA/US@EPA, SAMUEL

bcc

Subject Re: FROM CONGRESSMAN UPTON'S OFFICE -
Kalamazoo River Superfund Site Cleanup Issue

Ed,

In follow-up to our conversation with Sam Borries (OSC), I am sending you this recap of USEPA's contacts with Bruce Merchant, the City of Kalamazoo's Public Service Director.

USEPA representatives (Larry Schmitt, Shari Kolak and Sam Borries) met with Bruce Merchant and others from the City of Kalamazoo last Thursday (3/15) prior to our public meeting to discuss the time-critical removal action and the Supplemental RI/FS process. They had a 2 hour discussion and addressed a number of questions about the removal action that Mr. Merchant had previously sent us via email. He did not ask us directly about the questions he raised in his email to the Congressman re. the need for a time-critical removal or why they cannot provide input on the decision at this point. Our staff thought they addressed most of his questions and we agreed to set up a meeting for the City with USEPA and the MDEQ water supply staff to discuss the specific concern about the city's drinking water supply. Mr. Paul Bucholz (517-373-8174) of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality was also in attendance. Later, Mr. Merchant attended our public meeting and thanked us for meeting with them. Larry Schmitt (312-353-6575), Chief of the Region 5 Superfund Remedial Response Section #3, has encouraged Mr. Merchant to contact him directly if he needs anything. The Superfund staff expects to continue to work with him to address the City's concerns. Thank you.

Mary J. Canavan
Congressional Liaison
USEPA, Region 5
312-353-3018 (phone)
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"Sackley, Ed" <Ed.Sackley@mail.house.gov>



"Sackley, Ed"
<Ed.Sackley@mail.house.gov>
v>

03/19/2007 05:21 PM

To Mary Canavan/R5/USEPA/US@EPA

cc "Ratner, Mark" <Mark.Ratner@mail.house.gov>, "Kim, John"
<john.kim@mail.house.gov>

Subject FROM CONGRESSMAN UPTON'S OFFICE - Kalamazoo
River Superfund Site Cleanup Issue

Good Afternoon, Mary!

Just when we thought it was safe to go back in the water . . .

Please pardon the informality of this referral, but the question of where the



PCB-containing sediment from the Plainwell cleanup will be deposited is the hot topic of the day. I've been approached by two Kalamazoo City Commissioners in the past 72 hours and they're discussing it at tonight's Kalamazoo City Commission meeting. The message below was sent to Fred via e-mail by the City's Public Services Director. A prompt response, even if interim, would be greatly appreciated. If you can provide a direct contact person for Mr. Merchant at EPA Region V, that would be welcome, too.

If you need a more formal case referral, please let me know. The cc's are two of our Washington staffers.

Thanks!

Ed

Ed Sackley, District Representative | U.S. Representative Fred Upton (MI-06)
269.385.0039 | 157 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 180 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007-4814

-----Original Message-----

From: writerep
Sent: Thursday, March 15, 2007 3:33 PM
To: Representative Fred Upton
Subject: WriteRep Responses

DATE: March 15, 2007 1:55 PM
NAME: Bruce E. Merchant
ADDR1: City of Kalamazoo
ADDR2: Public Services Department
ADDR3: 415 Stockbridge Ave
CITY: Kalamazoo MI 49008
STATE: Michigan
ZIP: 49008
PHONE: (269) 337-8711
EMAIL: merchantb@kalamazoocity.org
msg:
Dear Fred -

I'm Bruce Merchant, the Director of Public Services for the City of Kalamazoo. The City was recently informed of a mediated negotiation settlement between the USEPA, the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), and two of the paper companies regarding cleanup of the Kalamazoo River in Plainwell. While good news for the Kalamazoo River, the USEPA and the MDEQ will be disposing of over 130,000 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediments in the old Allied Paper Landfill located within the City of Kalamazoo. This site, at the old Allied Paper Mill location off Alcott Street in the City of Kalamazoo, is between two solid Kalamazoo neighborhoods, Edison and Westnedge Hill, plus it is in the 5-year time of travel for approximately 1/2 of

the Kalamazoo area's drinking water supply.

The City wants the Kalamazoo River to be cleaned up but not to the detriment of the City of Kalamazoo. We have been informed by USEPA-Region 5 officials that this is a completed settlement under the "time-critical site remediation" process under the CERCLA or "Superfund" legislation. As you well know, the PCB problem in the Kalamazoo River has been an ongoing issue for at least 20 years. We're curious as to how this is suddenly a "time-critical" issue for the USEPA.

Could you please check into this issue and see what recourse may be available to the City of Kalamazoo? Is there a way to have input into the process (other than "after-the-fact") when the EPA has suddenly indicated that the City of Kalamazoo must be the "landfill" for the Plainwell PCBs?

We have many concerned neighborhoods and citizens. Any response and help would be much appreciated. Thank you! My email address is: merchantb@kalamazoocity.org, my phone number is: (269) 337-8711 and my fax number is (269) 337-8533.

Bruce Merchant
Public Services Director
City of Kalamazoo